

U.S. History Research Summary/Introduction

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Topic: I Love Lucy, late 1950s sitcom

Specific Research Question to Be Addressed:

How did the late 1950s sitcom "I Love Lucy" break the norms of society and bring about a new perspective on family life?

One-Paragraph Overview/Summary:

"I Love Lucy" was a very influential piece of pop culture that filtered into the homes of numerous Americans in the late 1950s. It seemed to bring about new ideas and adjust the idea of normal within American society. Lucille Ball and Desi Arnaz played a married couple that most people saw as relatable, as they worried about commodities and paying the rent similar to everyone watching. However while they connected to society they brought along with them some fresh perspectives. For instance they were the first bi-racial couple on TV. This hit people like a shock wave! While people were in awe when Ball was first woman pregnant on television and the first to wear pants it was hard to resist her witty charm!

Introductory Paragraph:

"I Love Lucy" reflected the late 1950s in many ways, it told a story of a family living in mahatten worrying about simple daily problems like paying the rent. The comedy came from the main characters Lucy and Ricky a married couple who tended to exaggerate most every part of their lives. Themes of new ideas and breaking the norm were most prominent throughout the show. Lucille Ball was the first woman to be pregnant on TV, let alone sleep in the same bed as her husband! The charismatic duo of Lucy and Ricky created a huge boom in TV purchases! Undertones of feminism can also be found on the show, when Lucy and her neighbor Ethel find ways to scheme against their husbands. All in all "I Love Lucy" is a treasure among American popculture, and a TV show that truly will never be forgotten, as it played such a large role in influencing our society!

Organization

I. Intro

II. Background Information

III. Characters

IV. Normal Facets of Society Broken

V. Social changes

VI. Conclusion